



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendents, Curriculum Supervisors, and Principals  
**FROM:** Schauna Findlay, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
**SUBJECT:** Kindergarten Common Core State Standards Implementation and Grades 1-12 Update  
**DATE:** March 3, 2011

The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy for Social Studies/History, Science, and Technical Subjects and Mathematics were adopted by the Indiana State Board of Education in August 2010. Beginning in 2014-15, students in grades 3-11 will be tested on the Common Core State Standards using multi-state assessments developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) consortium. The students who begin Kindergarten in 2011-12 will be the first 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to take the PARCC assessment instead of ISTEP+. The foundation for learning the Common Core State Standards for College and Career Readiness begins in Kindergarten.

### **Kindergarten Curriculum Maps and Video**

Kindergarten curriculum maps containing Common Core State Standards in math and English Language Arts for 2011-12 are now available (<https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov>; click on "Curriculum Maps"). Teachers can now begin to:

- study what will be expected of their students next year;
- revise their curriculum to align with the new standards;
- identify resources to teach the new standards;
- attend professional development to learn about content that is new to them; and
- collaborate on instructional strategies to effectively teach the new standards.

A video walking teachers through these new resources is available at <http://www.doe.in.gov/commoncore>. To access the podcast, click on the "Kindergarten Common Core Standards and Curriculum Overview 3-11." We recommend that kindergarten teachers have an opportunity to view this podcast in a grade-level team meeting and then plan how they will work together to prepare for next year.

A *Parent's Guide to Student Success* for the Common Core State Standards is available for you to share with parents of incoming kindergarten students at <http://www.pta.org/KFeb4.pdf>

### **Grades 1-12 Update**

Indiana Department of Education staff members have conducted extensive analyses of the crosswalks between Indiana's Academic Standards and the Common Core State Standards. To ensure students are prepared for our current ISTEP+ and End-of-Course Assessments (ECAs) and for the future PARCC assessments, Transition Standards will be provided to teachers so they will know which Common Core State Standards need to be taught in order to avoid gaps in student learning. Updated curriculum maps with Indiana's Standards and Common Core State Standards that need to begin in 2011-12 will be provided this spring, so teacher teams can re-align their curriculum, resources, and assessments. Math teachers will want to begin studying the Mathematical Practices in the Common Core State Standards in preparation for the 2011-12 school year.

### **Literacy Standards for History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects**

All teachers will begin teaching the Common Core Literacy Standards for their disciplines during the 2011-12 school year. Resources and training information will follow. These standards are available in the Standards Print Library at <http://www.doe.in.gov/standards>.

### **Communication Tools**

Detailed communication tools are being developed for corporations, schools, and teachers. This information will be provided on our Common Core website and announced in future SAMS and PAMS Memos. This information will also be previewed and explained at meetings throughout the state in March and April at each of the Education Service Centers. For dates and registration information, visit <http://www.doe.in.gov/commoncore> and click on the Common Core State Standards Regional Events link.

Your suggestions for additional tools/resources to support the transition are welcome. Please send your ideas to: [standards\\_support@doe.in.gov](mailto:standards_support@doe.in.gov). Thank you.